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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application) Group Art Unit: ~~1646~~ 1653
)
Anthony Steven Weiss) Examiner:
)
Appl. No. 09/743,818)
)
Filed: April 26, 2001)
)
For: PROTEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY II) May 30, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

ATTACHMENT #6

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT C

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

In the Claims

Cancel claims 1-22, 42-44, and the claim incorrectly number 87 without

prejudice.

Add new claims 45-88 as follows.

*Rule 126
45 8-18-03
B,*

⁴⁶ ~~45~~. A method for reducing or eliminating the susceptibility of a tropoelastin to proteolysis comprising mutating a sub-sequence in the tropoelastin so that the susceptibility of the tropoelastin to proteolysis is reduced or eliminated.

⁴⁷ ~~46~~. A method according to claim ⁴⁶ ~~45~~ wherein one sub-sequence is mutated.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on May 30, 2001.

Signature

Typed or printed name

Debra N. Gerstemeier
Debra N. Gerstemeier